



Ocotillo Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District



Councilmember Norma Alvarez

May 4, 2012



Parks, Recreation and Library Summer Fun for Everyone!

Activities Guide. Be part of our great activities this summer! To view the Activities Guide [click here](#).

Summer Youth Recreation Sites. Drop-in and licensed programs are available along with an exciting field trip package to keep the kids happy and entertained during the summer. [Click here](#) for more information.

Swim Program Registration Opens Monday, May 7. Glendale's summer aquatics program offers swim lessons, water aerobics programs, family nights, recreation swim and more! [Click here](#) for more information.

Ocotillo District Meeting – Proposed Budget. You are invited to learn about the city of Glendale's proposed budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year at a community meeting hosted by Councilmember Norma Alvarez.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, May 7 at the Glendale Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave.

Glendale Assistant City Manager Horatio Skeete and Financial Services Executive Director Sherry Schurhammer will give a presentation on the proposed budget, which goes into effect on July 1, 2012, and provide residents an opportunity to ask questions.

To request special accommodations at the meeting, call the Council Office at 623-930-2878.

Public Open House — High Intensity Activated Crosswalk Pedestrian Beacon. The City of Glendale is proposing to install a new traffic device to assist pedestrians crossing Glendale Avenue near 65th Avenue. The HAWK system is designed to enhance safety in the area and assist pedestrians crossing Glendale Avenue.

A Public Open House will be held to introduce the system to the local community, businesses, and residents on Wednesday, May 9 at Glendale High School Media Center, 6216 W. Glendale Avenue. Staff from the City and the City's consultants will be available to explain the system to the public.

The public can show up at any time between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to receive information and discuss the project. For more information regarding the project or to request a brochure please contact Chris Lemka at 623-930-2940.

Glendale Spark Award Nominations - MAY 25 Deadline! The Glendale Commission on Neighborhoods encourages residents to nominate a neighbor, volunteer, business, nonprofit or faith-based organization who has made a commitment to the Glendale community or helped to improve our neighborhoods.

If you know of someone like this, nominate the person or group for a 2012 Community Spark Award. The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, May 25, 2012. The Spark Award recipients will be honored by the Commission on Neighborhoods at the 2012 Community Leadership Forum and Spark Awards Ceremony in June.

This year's theme is "Be the Spark in your Community" and is sponsored by the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors, an organization that is dedicated to enhancing the economic, social and cultural vitality of Glendale.

Nominees should fall into one of the following categories:

- **Business Support & Community Involvement** - This category is for businesses that consistently work with the Glendale community to assist in their positive development and enhance the quality of life.

- **Community Partner** - This category is for community partners such as non-profits, government agencies, schools, and faith-based organizations, etc., who have worked with neighborhoods and the community in a positive manner to enhance the quality of life.
- **Neighborhood Leadership** - This category is for any individual who lives in either an HOA or a non-HOA neighborhood and exemplifies positive leadership and decision-making abilities while participating in a neighborhood group.
- **Young Leaders on the Move** - This category will honor young people who have exemplified positive leadership and decision-making in their school and/or community.

For online nomination forms, [click here](#) and for more information, call 623-930-2868.

Glendale Celebrates National Tourism Week. The Glendale Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) is recognizing National Tourism Week (May 5-13) in celebration of an industry that continues to serve as a vital economic stimulus for Glendale and the West Valley.

In recognition of National Tourism Week, the Glendale CVB is promoting its “Seven Wonders of the West Valley.” They are:

1. **Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area:** www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation
2. **Wet ‘n’ Wild:** www.wetnwildphoenix.com
3. **Wildlife World Zoo and Aquarium:** www.wildlifeworld.com
4. **Thunderbird Conservation Park:** www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation
5. **Historic Downtown Glendale:** www.visitglendale.com
6. **Challenger Space Center:** www.azchallenger.org
7. **Lake Pleasant:** www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake_pleasant

As part of the Glendale CVB’s Seven Wonders of the West Valley Promotion, the bureau is giving away a “Seven Wonders Experience,” which includes free admission tickets to Wet ‘n’ Wild, Challenger Space Center and Wildlife World Zoo and Aquarium. To enter to win, go to www.VisitGlendale.com or stop by the Glendale Visitor Center. The deadline to enter the contest is Monday, May 14.

According to the U.S. Travel Association, more than \$770 billion is generated annually in direct expenditures by domestic and international travelers. A recent study shows that direct spending in the state is at \$17.7 billion annually, according to the Arizona Office of Tourism.

Locally and nationally, Glendale and the West Valley welcome millions of tourists each year, and for National Tourism Week, residents and visitors are encouraged to stop by the Glendale Visitor Center to learn how to plan the ultimate “staycation” and learn more about these seven wonders of the West Valley.

The U.S. Travel Association also notes that direct travel expenditures produce \$117 billion in tax revenue for local, state and federal governments. Without the tax revenue generated by the travel and tourism industry, each U.S. household would pay \$988 more in taxes.

For more information, visit www.VisitGlendale.com or call the Visitor Center 623-930-4500.

Around Town

Your Responsibilities and Fair Housing Laws. Property owners, property managers, and those who work in real estate can learn more about current Fair Housing laws. The class covers the requirements and guidelines, recent changes to Fair Housing laws and statistics on the types of Fair Housing complaints that are filed. Join us at 3 p.m., Wednesday, May 9 at the Glendale Public Library Auditorium, 5959 W. Brown St.

Space is limited for both presentations. For more information, call 623-930-3670.

Energy Conservation Classes. Join us for the next Energy Conservation Class at 6 p.m., Thursday, May 10 at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. This free, simple savings energy class includes high efficiency showerheads, programmable thermostats and CFL bulbs for all attendees. Free devices are available only to Glendale residents. To register, call 623-930-3760. [Click here](#) for more information.

Watering Your Landscape Class. This class provides hands-on instruction on how long and how often to run your water system. Participants gain practice setting actual timers. Join us at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 22 at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. To register, call 623-930-3760. [Click here](#) for more information.

Contact Councilmember Alvarez

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